praise and pay being thus defrauded of his name and fee. Such were the first fruits of Leeds gaol—a foreshadowing of the acts of its inmates.

Again, the worthy guardians of the place and people wishing "to train up their children in the way they should go," desired architects to aid them, and in the hopes that the march of improvement had brought with it honour and good faith to Leeds, many contributed the fruits of their industry to the industrial schools. Once more the most meritorious plan was selected, but only to be carried out by those who had great interest and little principle.

These are the lessons they teach their children, and if the past gives such tuition, the present "will not depart from it."

Let then those who are content to receive 200*l.* 100*l.* or 50*l.* contribute their three month's brain-wear for the chance of it; but mark! tis but the *chance*, for with whom do they compete?—with architects united by blood and interest to the committee, and with a borough surveyor, who will in all probability unite in his one person the triune functions of a competitor, an umpire, and a clerk of works. With these chances, and with these prototypes, how little justice may be expected in the selection for these judicial buildings! Such is the patronage extended to our art in the town that bears on its insignia Minerva's bird, and such the justice of the borough that for its motto bears—

Pro Rege et Lege.

We have received several other communications on the same subject, to exactly the same effect. One of the writers says, "Let the town council name a competent tribunal to decide upon the merit of the designs, and let them, as in all fairness they are bound, give to the successful artist the honour and advantage of executing his design, and they will, without doubt, have an edifice worthy of the great community for whose use it is to be built, and will deserve well of all who love the fine arts, and desire to see them advance and keep pace with that mechanical skill in the development of which England at this time holds so high a place amongst the nations." The time for sending in designs has been extended to October 31st.

BUILDING FOR THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION TO BE HELD IN DUBLIN, 1853.

The first prize for the design of a building for the exhibition of 1853 has been awarded to Mr. John Benson, county surveyor, of Cork; the second prize to Messrs. Deane and Woodward, of Cork; and the third prize to Mr. Turner, of Hammersmith Works, Dublin. Our readers will remember that Mr. Benson, in conjunction with Sir Thomas Deane, was the architect for the building of the Cork Exhibition.

The following are particulars of Mr. Benson's adopted design. It presents a front to Merrion-square of 300 feet: the centre feature of the elevation consists of a semi-circular projection, which forms the eastern termination of the central hall. This will be an apartment of 425 feet in length and 100 feet in height, covered by a semi-circular roof upon trellis ribs, in one span of 100 feet. On each side of the centre hall, and running parallel to it for the same length, are two halls 50 feet wide, with vaulted roofs, similar to that which covers the main nave or hall of the building. The height from the floor to the roof of each of these halls will be 65 feet. They are approached through passages from the centre hall. In addition to these three halls are four compartments of 25 feet wide, running the whole length of the building; two are placed between the centre hall and the side halls, and two on each side of the latter; divided into sections of 25 feet square, forming convenient divisions for the purposes of classification. Over these compartments are spacious galleries, also running the length of the building, which will not only afford increased space for exhibition, but be a promenade from whence the effect of the three halls will be seen to great advantage. The ceiling of the halls being divided into panels formed by the trellis ribs, and the other constructive parts of the building, will provide opportunity for decoration. Light is admitted from the top. The construction of the building is marked on the elevation, and forms, in fact, the ornamental character of the design. There are also external galleries, which will be features in the exterior, and will be useful in providing access to the roof for repairs. The termination of each of the principal roofs to the east and west is semi-spherical. There will be three entrances in the front facing Merrion-square, under a range of verandahs, through which access will be had for the holders of season tickets and the general public. The materials of the building will be iron, timber, and glass. The latter will only be used for light, as before described. The parts of the roof at each side of the lights will be timber, covered with the waterproof cloth manufactured by Messrs. Malcomson, of Portlaw, co. Waterford. The trellis girders which support the galleries will be of wrought iron, supported on cast-iron pillars. The available area of ground floor will be 147,704 feet. Of wall space there will be 87,000 feet.

THE BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

The British Archæological Association have held a most successful congress in Newark and its neighbourhood, under the active presidency of the Duke of Newcastle. At the opening meeting on the 16th, the mayor presented an address from the corporation, wherein they said, after referring to the men of note who had proceeded from the district—

"Arrogating no share in the just eulogy of our ancestors, be it permitted us only to show you the extant evidences of their loyalty and devotion, and in singular and happy contrast to exhibit the marvels of modern device with which engineering skill has adorned this vicinity; while the British Archæological Association, under the auspices of your grace, pass in careful review the particulars of the scene, and with the lights of the time illustrate and identify them and assign each relic of antiquity to its appropriate age, effectually serving the cause of science, enhancing your own world-wide celebrity, and engaging for ever our grateful acknowledgments for distinction so conferred upon ourselves."

The President made an able address, remarking in the course of it with reference to the desire of the Association to spread abroad a correct taste for archæology, and a just appreciation of monuments of ancient art, so as ultimately to secure a general interest in their preservation,—"So well aware were the ancient Greeks of the value of such investigations as those undertaken by this society, that in Athens three men were paid by the State, whose duty it was to afford information to those who sought instruction respecting the interesting monuments of their country. With regard to our own country, however, so entirely deficient were the records of history from the third century to the beginning of the eighth, that, but for the researches of the antiquarian, that long period would be almost a blank in the annals of this island. Another most important subject, and one intimately connected with the science of government, had of late years received the attention of the society. He alluded to the bearing of ancient laws, and the influence of apparently anomalous customs, upon the habits and even the dispositions of a people. In France there was, or at all events there was till recently, a Government office, whose duty consisted in watching over monuments, and in securing the restoration of such ancient buildings and monuments as would otherwise fall into dilapidation or be destroyed by private persons. That important duty was, however, performed in this country to a great extent by voluntary associations, such as that which was now holding its meeting, and it had been most successfully performed in numerous instances, not by any actual power with which such societies were invested, but by the wholesome action of public opinion, induced by their representations."

Papers on Robin Hood and his era, by Mr. Gutch and Mr. Halliwell, were afterwards read; also a paper by Sir F. Dwarris, on the forest laws, courts, and customs, and the Chief Justices in Eyre, north and south of the Trent.

On Tuesday they breakfasted at Thurgarton Priory, and then proceeded to Nottingham, where they were received by the mayor, Mr. Felkin, and a meeting was held, the Duke in the chair, in the Exchange-rooms.

Mr. Planché read a paper on "The Family of the Peverels of Nottingham," and the members afterwards proceeded to inspect St. Mary's Church, the Castle, and other antiquities. The railway afterwards conveyed them to Newstead Abbey, where Col. Wildman entertained them, and a paper was read by Mr. Pettigrew on "The Abbey," and Lord Byron's connection with it. Lord Byron and Col. Wildman, the present possessor, it may be remarked, were together at Harrow School, and on becoming the purchaser of Newstead the gallant colonel received a letter from the noble lord expressing his satisfaction that the mansion had fallen into the hands of his old schoolfellow and monitor. Mr. Pettigrew concluded by observing, that all lovers of archæology must rejoice that a place so romantic in its character, associated with so many interesting circumstances, and so closely connected with the history of the greatest of the modern poets of England, should have fallen into the possession of a gentleman who had exhibited so true a sense of its value, and who had religiously preserved every memorial in his power connected with Lord Byron.

Worksop, Humber, Lincoln, Southwell were to follow, with more breakfasts, dinners, and papers than they can well get through; but these we will speak of hereafter.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

The genuine success of M. Jullien's lyric play, "Pietro il Grande" gives us much pleasure. M. Jullien has done much to popularise good music in England: he has elevated the standard with the multitude, and deserves well of us all in consequence. In "Pietro il Grande," although the music may not be uniformly equal to that of Meyerbeer or Beethoven, who seem to have been his models on the occasion, he has surprised his best wishers by the invention and science displayed throughout. Without pretending to discriminate all the superior parts, we would mention the charming madrigal, *In sen dell' amistà*; the Muscovite soldiers' hymn, *Di Muscovia eletti figli*, the closing fugue in the first act, of the same air; Rossomak's war song, *Dell' armi*, in the second act; the quartett, the septett, and a charming passage between Peter and his generals at the close of the same act. Signor Tamberlik has raised himself, both as actor and singer, by his performance of *Peter*; and the same may be said of Madlle. Anna Zerr, who plays *Catherine*, the only female character in the opera. The part of *Rossomak* is a difficult and not pleasant one, but enables Herr Formes to show his peculiar power.

Messrs. Grieve and Telbin have, as usual, provided some excellent scenery: the sky and distance in the first scene,—the dockyard at Sardam,—and a snow scene of Moscow, seen through an arcade, in the third act, are very cleverly painted. The last scene—the throne-room in the palace, where we have columns of green and gold, a domed ceiling, chandeliers, and a flight of steps at the back, down which the whole glittering pageant passes—leaves nothing to be desired in the way of magnificence. The tent scene in the second act wants lights, the mass of dark costumes, in some cases more truthful than elegant, swallows up what there is.

M. Jullien and Mr. Gye have long worked together, and the costly and complete manner in which the latter has put his old colleague's work upon the stage is as creditable to him as a man as it is as an artist.

The Commercial Travellers' Schools Competition.—We understand that fifty sets of designs have been sent in, and that the committee propose calling in professional assistance to make the selection.

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